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ABSTRACT

This booklet presents, in comic book format, information for children and adolescents on the hazards of using smokeless tobacco. It touches on the use of smokeless tobacco by baseball players, the advertising of smokeless tobacco, and the illegality of selling smokeless tobacco to minors. Health consequences of using smokeless tobacco, including the risk of cancer, are addressed. (NB)

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BAD MOUTHIN'

What Smokeless Tobacco Can Do to You

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TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

It's tobacco you don't have to smoke. People chew and suck on it. A lot of guys call it chew, plug or snuff.
What's this stuff?
Wow! Is it okay? I know smoking's no good for you.

Illustrations by Barry Carlsen

Special thanks to Rhys Jones, D.D.S., University of Iowa, and Pat Schuetz, AODA Coordinator for Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools.

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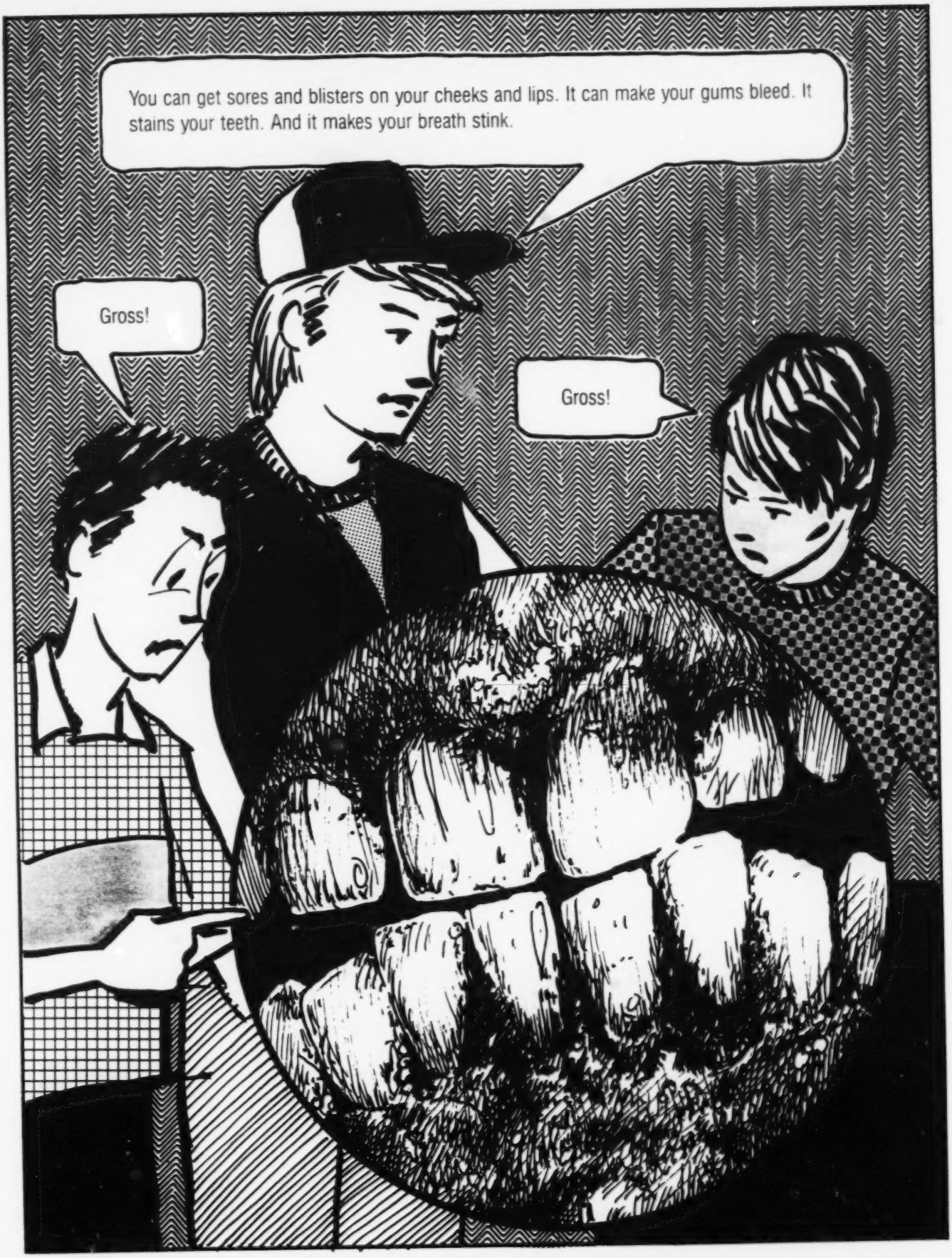
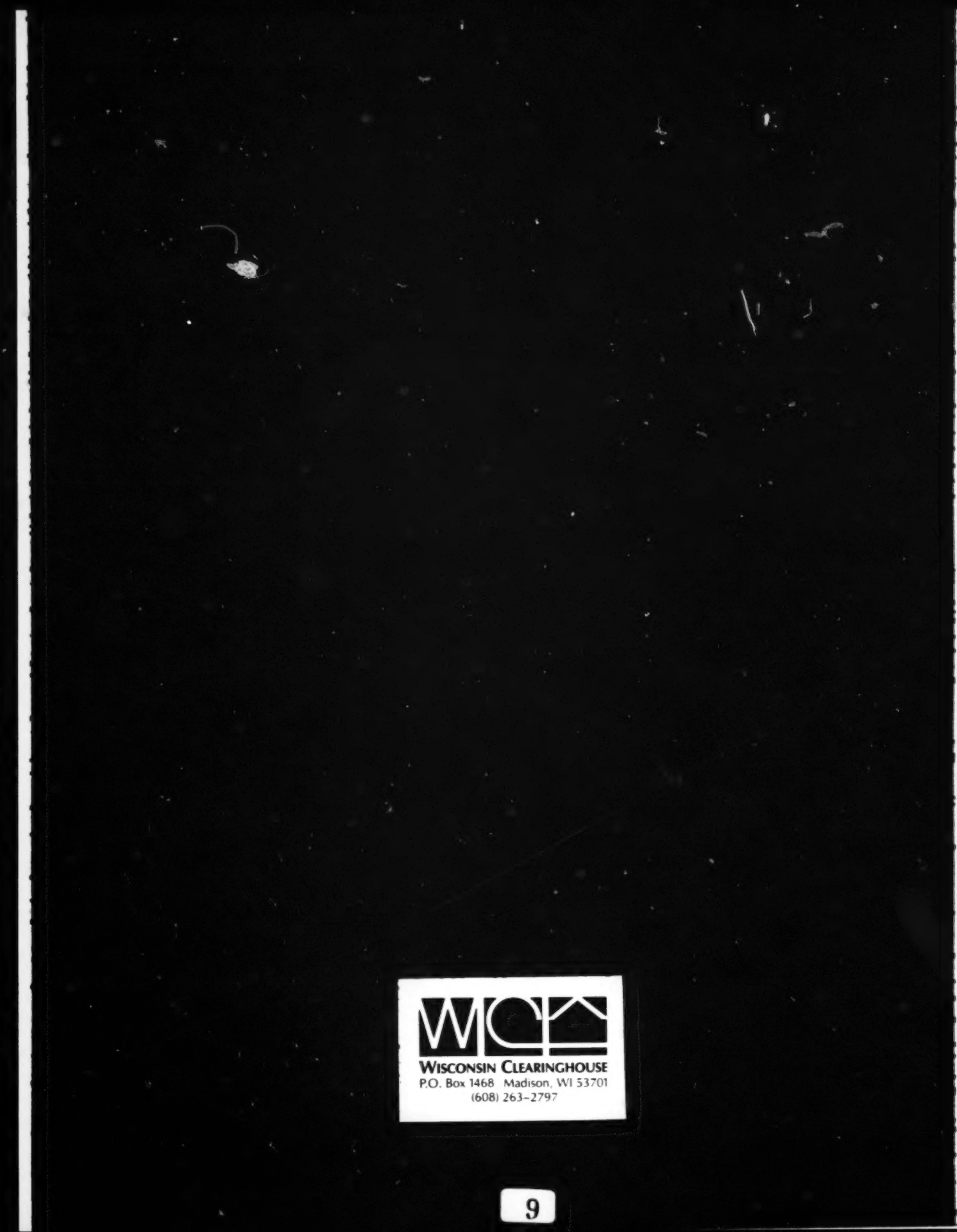
Yeah, smoking is bad. But this smokeless stuff is no better.
Aw, c'mon. I've seen baseball players use it.
Not healthy ones. You should see inside their mouths. You wouldn't want yours to look that way.
What do you mean, Dave?
?


You can get sores and blisters on your cheeks and lips. It can make your gums bleed. It stains your teeth. And it makes your breath stink.
Gross!
Gross!

Yeah. And not only that but people who use this stuff are headed for trouble.
How?
Chew and snuff can get you hooked fast. There's a strong drug in it called nicotine. The nicotine will make you addicted to the stuff. It's really hard to stop once you've started. And those sores people get in their mouths—they can turn into cancer. It's better never to use this stuff at all.

Some do. Most don't. A lot of kids are really turned off by chew and snuff. All that spitting and drooling make me want to barf!
But other guys think it's cool to use it.
CHEWSPOO!
Listen, don't believe those. Most kids and adults don't use any kind of tobacco, smokeless or otherwise. Most baseball, football and hockey players don't chew. Neither do basketball players. They know it's not cool. And you know what else?
But what about the guys in all those ads?

It's against the law in most states for kids to buy chew and snuff, just like it is for cigarettes. You could get arrested if you buy it. And the person who sells it to you could get arrested, too. Besides, using this stuff costs a lot of money. I'd rather spend it on something I'll really enjoy. Like a movie or that new glove I've been wanting.
What?
Hey, yeah! Man, you're right. We'll just leave the chewin' to someone else.



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